

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed July 9, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this Application, Applicants submit the following remarks, have canceled claims, have added claims, and have amended claims. The claims as now presented are believed to be in allowable condition.

Claims 2-14 and 16-87 were pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 88-93 have been added and claims 5, 13, 43-56, 60, 76, and 84 have been canceled. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute at least some of the canceled claims and similar claims in one or more related Applications. Accordingly, claims 2-4, 6-12, 14, 16-42, 57-59, 61-75, 77-83, and 85-93 are now pending in this Application. Claims 2, 26, 33, 34, 57, 63, 64, 73, 83, and 85 are independent claims.

Allowed Claims

Claims 2-4, 6-10, 12, 14, 16-25, 73-75 and 77-82 have been allowed.

Claims 13, 33-34, and 60-64 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 33-34 and 63-64 to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. No new matter has been added, and no new search is required. Accordingly, claims 33-34 and 63-64 are now in allowable condition.

Applicants have amended independent claim 26 to incorporate all of the limitations previously found in allowable dependant claim 13 (now canceled) and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended independent claim 57 to incorporate all of the limitations previously found in allowable dependant claim 60 (now canceled). No new matter has been added, and no new search is required. Accordingly, claims 26 and 57 are now in allowable condition.

Applicants have also amended claim 83 to incorporate all of the limitations previously found in defendant claim 76 (now canceled) and allowable defendant claim 13 (now canceled). No new matter has been added, and no new search is required. Applicants submit that amended claim 83 is allowable for similar reasons as was allowable claim 13.

Applicants have also amended claim 85 to incorporate all of the limitations previously found in allowable defendant claim 60 (now canceled). No new matter has been added, and no new search is required. Applicants submit that amended claim 85 is allowable for similar reasons as was allowable claim 60.

It should be noted that the above-mentioned amendments necessitated dependency amendments to claims 11, 61-62, and 86. No new matter has been added, and no new search is required.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 88-93 have been added and are believed to be in allowable condition. Claims 88-89 depend from claim 83. Claims 90-93 depend from claim 85. Support for claims 88-93 is provided within the Specification, for example, in paragraph [0052]. No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, this Application should be in condition for allowance. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Amendment, that the Application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicants' Representative at the number below.

Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this Amendment, including an extension fee, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3661.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-2900, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

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